provision in the budget of DPE. Accordingly, the expenditure of the Board is being met through the budget of DPE.

(c) and (d) As per the resolution constituting BRPSE, the Board may take the advice of experts in the relevant field, if considered necessary.

Funds for revival of sick PSUs

3272. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick PSUs under his Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have slashed the allocation of funds for revival of sick PSUs under his Ministry;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) what are the detailed alternative steps proposed for revival of such PSUs; and

(e) whether it is a fact that only those sick PSUs will be revived which meet the standards set down by the banks for normal business loan, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) There are 21 sick PSEs under the Department of Heavy Industry.

(b) to (d) Allocation of funds for revival of PSEs under plan (2006-07) has been increased substantially as compared to (2005-06). Wherever revival plans are approved by the Government, necessary inputs to the PSEs are being provided.

(e) Revival plan for PSEs have various components like financial restructuring, funding of capital investments, sale of assets etc. Packages for revival are prepared on a case to case basis, which may have funding from Government/Banks etc.

Criterion for PSUs to achieve Status of Mini-ratna

3273. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) criterion for PSUs to achieve status of Miniratna; and

(b) criterion to achieve the status of Navratna in terms of turnover, profitability, capacity utilization, nature of products etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The PSEs which have made profit in the last three years continuously, have a positive net worth, not defaulted in the repayment of loans/interest payment on any loans due to the Government, do not depend upon budgetary support or Government Guarantees (except where required under the standard stipulations of external donor agencies) are eligible to be considered for Miniratna status. Further, restructuring of the Board by inducting at least three non-official Directors is a pre-condition for exercise of enhanced powers under the Miniratna Scheme.

(b) The PSEs, which are Miniratna Category—I, Schedule 'A', obtained MOU rating of 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' in three of the last five years and have obtained a composite score of 60 or above calculated with reference to six selected performance parameters are eligible to be considered for Navratna status.

Production of ethanol

†3274. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of ethanol in the country is less than the demand;

(b) if so, the estimate of the production of ethanol in 2005-06;

(c) whether there is any plan to increase the production of ethanol as per demand in the country; and

(d) if so, by when the production is likely to be more in comparison to demand in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.